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(b) if so, how the sheets were disposed of after the Session was over; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the sheets were sold privately to a single individual; without calling for tenders for the purchase and why?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(a) to (c) The hon. Member is perhaps under the impression that the Government supplied the G.C. and G.P. sheets to the organizers of the 60th session of the Indian National Congress at Avadi from their stocks and also disposed them of after the session was over. This is not so. The convenor of the Reception Committee of the Indian National Congress Session was permitted by the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta, to purchase for use at the session of a large number of sheets from the producers against quota certificates issued by the Controller. The Controller also authorized the convenor to dispose of the sheets against permits issued by the State Controller (the Director of Industries and Commerce) till 15th February 1955 at prices not exceeding column III rates of the Price Circular. The sheets left over with the convener uncovered by the permits issued up to 15th February 1955 were allowed by the Controller to be sold to any person subject to the maximum prices mentioned above. The question whether the sheets should be sold after inviting tenders or individually to a number of persons is one for the convenor to decide and Government are not concerned."

* 1702 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of galvanised corrugated sheets allotted for the recent Congress session at Avadi;

(b) the rate charged for these sheets by the Government of India and other conditions imposed by them; and

(c) whether it was a condition that they should be handed over to the Madras State Government after the session was over?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) 1,350 tons.
" (b) & (c) The rate charged was Rs. 665 per ton. The condition imposed was that the entire quantity should be returned to the Madras State authorities on the expiry of the session for distribution to normal consumers. But ultimately to obviate difficulties in looking after large stocks or in transporting them, the convenor of the Reception Committee of he Indian National Congress was registered by the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta, as a stock-holder at Avadi, within the meaning of the Iron and Steel (Control of Production and Distribution) Order, 1941, subject to the following conditions :—

(i) The convenor will hold in his stock 1,350 tons G.C. sheets released from the 60th session of the Indian National

Congress held at Avadi in January 1955, for disposal against permits issued by the State Government of Madras at prices not exceeding Column III rates (Rs. 715) of the Price Circular issued by the Iron and Steel Controller under the aforesaid Order and current at the time of delivery.

(ii) The stocks that will be left over with him uncovered by permits on the 15th February 1955, may be sold to any person subject to the maximum prices indicated above.

(iii) His appointment as an *ad hoc* stock-holder will be terminated as soon as the disposal of the stocks referred to above is completed.''

Land census

* 1703 *Q.*—Sri S. DAIVASIGAMONEY (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations were made by the Tamil Nad Village Karnams' Association explaining the arduous work involved in collecting statistics of land-holdings, the inadequacy of time granted for the purpose, and the need to pay suitable allowance for the extra work;

(*b*) whether any extension of time has been granted for the completion of the work;

(*c*) what are the punishments prescribed for not completing the work in time?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU:—'' (*a*) Yes, Sir.

'' (*b*) The Government originally granted one month's time for finishing the work at the village level but subsequently extended it to two months.

'' (*c*) No specific punishments have been prescribed by the Government.''

* 1704 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP:—'' Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the collection of land census statistics has been completed in any or all the districts of the State; and

(*b*) whether the information collected will be supplied to Members of the Assembly? ''

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU:—'' (*a*) The work has not yet been completed except in the Nilgiris district.

'' (*b*) The question of furnishing information to hon. Members will be considered after the census is completed.''